

The returns from a large number of Divisions were promptly forwarded to this office, others that might, have not been sent. Many of the returns are apparently not correct, inasmuch as the number of contributing members are greater than the previous quarter, without anything to show why such is the case; others are less, and no expulsions or suspensions. From this it is quite evident that in many instances the returns are filled up hurriedly on the night of installation, and from memory, without proper information: this should not be the case, but how the W. P. and R. S. can certify that they have examined and find them correct, is beyond my comprehension; the whole is treated as mere form, and much carelessness has been manifested hitherto, but I trust that for the future more pains will be taken. Everything depends upon the R. S. of a Division doing his duty, and instructing his successor, that nothing may be left undone when he retires from office. If strict correctness was complied with, our affairs would soon exhibit a much healthier aspect.

The following is a report of the operations of the 73 Subordinate Divisions which have made returns to this G. D. for the quarter ending 31st March:

Number of Divisions now working,	-	-	84
" Initiated,	-	-	374
" Admitted by Card,	-	-	20
" Do. by Dispensation,	-	-	14
" Withdrawn,	-	-	65
" Rejected,	-	-	6
" Suspended,	-	-	32
" Reinstated,	-	-	36
" Expelled for violation of Art. 2d,	-	-	121*
" Do. for non-payment of dues,	-	-	89
" Violated pledge 1st time,	-	-	127
" Signed over,	-	-	30
" Violated pledge 2d time,	-	-	20
" Deaths,	-	-	16
" Contributing members,	-	-	3548
Total amount of receipts for quarter,	-	-	£663 9 4½
" " Paid for benefits,	-	-	260 16 4½
" " Cash on hand,	-	-	2619 18 8½
" " Per centage on fees and dues,	-	-	33 2 11

The following Divisions have not sent in their returns:—Prince of Wales, No. 30; Pugwash, 36; Grand Pre, 47; Wallace, 75; Iron Age, 82; North, 99; Wilmot, 103; Aurora, 70; Oriental, 16; Caledonia, 65; Mainmast, 57; the three latter in Pictou, where the cause seems rather to be retrograding, but from the number of staunch men in that Town and County it is hoped that the cause will receive fresh impetus when the quarterly session of G. D. will be held there in July next. It would be a great satisfaction to have

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\* 56 out of this number were expelled from one Division, being mostly Military men attracted by the novelty of the Order, but who did not remain steadfast.